

Spring 1-15-1999

ENG 2601-002: Backgrounds of Western Literature

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ENGLISH 2601/002
BACKGROUNDS OF WESTERN LITERATURE
SPRING TERM, 1999
COLEMAN HALL 313

Instructor: Jeffrey Lynch, Associate Dean
College of Arts & Humanities

Office: FAM 219 (east wing of the Fine Arts building)
Office of the Dean, College of Arts & Humanities

Office Hours: I'm usually in my office, and my door is always open to you if you want to just drop in. However, if there is a best time for you, simply call to make an appointment with my secretary.

Office Phone: 581-2917

Home Phone: 345-3360

e-mail: cfjpl@eiu.edu

TEXTS:

The Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces, eds. Maynard Mack, et al, 6th ed., vol. 1
The Iliad of Homer, trans. Richmond Lattimore
The Aeneid of Virgil, trans. Allen Mandelbaum

QUIZZES:

Ten (10) short reading quizzes will be required. The quizzes are announced on the syllabus and will cover the assignment to be read for that day.

Nota Bene: Quizzes are to be submitted on the assigned day. Under only the most extraordinary circumstances (e.g., plague, war, act of God) will a late assignment be accepted. Creative excuses, while perhaps appreciated for their originality, most probably will be ignored.

EXAMINATIONS:

Three (3) examinations (two hourly exams and a final) will be required. The hourly exams will consist of two parts. The first part, written in-class, will consist of identifications and short essay questions. The second part, written out-of-class, will consist of a more substantial essay.

TERM PAPER:

One (1) short term paper (non-research in nature, ca. 8-10 pages) will be required. You are encouraged to submit your own topic for approval. I will suggest paper topics as we proceed through the readings.

ATTENDANCE:

My attendance policy is pretty straightforward: I expect you to attend every class and to come to class prepared with questions and that you be appropriately caffeinated.

GRADES:

Examinations:	20% x 3	60%
Term Paper	20%	20%
Quizzes	10%	10%
Participation	10%	10%

CONFERENCES:

I don't require conferences in a course like this, but I do encourage them if you are having any trouble with the readings, if you are having any difficulties following/participating in class discussions, if you are unsure about the level of your performance in the class, but especially if you just want to pursue ideas that we simply don't have time for in class. Frequently, as you know, more learning takes place outside of the classroom than within it. Come see me if you want to chat informally.

SYLLABUS

- Tu, January 12: Introductory Remarks: Purpose and Scope
- Th, January 14: Genesis: Chapters 1-3 (Creation)
- Tu, January 19: Genesis: Chapters 4-11 (Primeval Legends)
 Chapter 22: (Abraham and Isaac)
- Th, January 21: The Book of Job QUIZ #1 DUE
- Tu, January 26: Iliad: Introduction and Book I
- Th, January 28: Iliad: Books II-IV
- Tu, February 2: Iliad: Books V-VIII
- Th, February 4: Iliad: Book IX QUIZ #2 DUE
- Tu, February 9: Iliad: Books X-XV
- Th, February 11: Iliad: Books XVI-XVIII QUIZ #3 DUE
- Tu, February 16: Iliad: Books XIX-XXII
- Th, February 18: Iliad: Books XXIII-XXIV
- Tu, February 23: EXAMINATION #1
- Th, February 25: Aeschylus, Agamemnon
 Introduction to the Greek Theatre
- Tu, March 2: Aeschylus, Agamemnon
 Sophocles, Oedipus the King QUIZ #4 DUE
- Th, March 4: Sophocles, Oedipus the King (Mid-Term)
- Tu, March 9: Sophocles, Antigone QUIZ #5 DUE
- Th, March 11: Euripides, Medea QUIZ #6 DUE
- Tu, March 23: Aeneid: Introduction and Book I
- Th, March 25: Aeneid: Books I-II

Tu, March 30: Aeneid: Books III-IV **QUIZ #7 DUE**

Th, April 1: Aeneid: Books V-VI

Tu, April 6: Aeneid: Books VII-IX

Th, April 8: Aeneid: Books X-XII **QUIZ #8 DUE**

Tu, April 13: **EXAMINATION #2**

Th, April 15: Inferno: Cantos I-VI (Circles 1-3)

Tu, April 20: Inferno: Cantos VII-XI (Circles 4-6)

Th, April 22: Inferno: Cantos XII-XXX (Circles 7-8) **QUIZ #9 DUE**

Tu, April 27: Inferno: Cantos XXXI-XXXIV (Circle 9)

Th, April 29: Course Overview **QUIZ #10 DUE**

May 3–May 7: FINAL EXAMINATIONS